

[Privacy](#) | [Disclaimer](#)
[Search SSC](#)
[Home](#)
[About SSC](#)
[Services & Products](#)
[Workshops & Registration](#)
[Tools & Resources](#)
[Contact Us](#)
[MySSC](#)
[Client Login](#)
[Welcome back](#)
[Logout](#)
[Change Password](#)

## Fiscal Reports

[Current Reports](#)
[Video Reports](#)
[Search Reports](#)
[View Archive](#)
[Printable Version](#)

# The FISCAL REPORT an informational update

Copyright © 2011 School Services of California, Inc.

Volume 31

For Publication Date: April 1, 2011

No. 7

## Ask SSC . . . How Far Back in Time Could We Go?

**Q.** I understand that last week when Governor Brown signed the Budget trailer bills, he commented that if his proposal to extend the temporary taxes isn't approved by the voters, public education could face a cut of \$4 billion to \$5 billion. How devastating would that be?

**A.** If the state were to cut public education \$5 billion from currently funded levels and take the amount from districts' revenue limits, funding levels in 2011-12 would end up just above the funding levels districts received in 1999-00. In other words, this cut would send us back more than a decade. So a school district would receive about the same level of revenue limit funding for a senior in high school next year that it received when the student was in the second grade. As we all know, districts' costs over the last decade have not been stagnant. The cost of providing educational and support services has gone up significantly over the last ten years to keep up with the consumer prices.

To illustrate this point, consider that when next year's senior in high school was in second grade the average compensation of their teacher was about \$57,800. In 2009-10, the most recent year for which certified statewide data is available, the compensation for that same teacher was about \$77,400. This is an increase of about 34% or \$19,600.

	<u>2000-01</u>	<u>2009-10</u>
Average Teacher Salary	\$52,363	\$67,571
Average Contribution to Health and Welfare	<u>\$5,486</u>	<u>\$9,844</u>
Total Average Compensation	\$57,849	\$77,415

Source: CDE Certified J-90 Reports

Over this period, it's not just salaries and benefits that have increased. The cost of facilities, instructional materials, equipment and supplies, utilities, rents, and other district cost increased as well. To bring this point home, consider that the average cost of a gallon of gasoline was about \$1.14 in 1999. Today if you can find gas below \$4.00 a gallon, you've gotten a bargain.

Thus, if the state cuts K-12 education funding \$5 billion from the current-year level, districts will be expected to educate students with 1999-00 funding levels while facing 2011-12 costs, an untenable expectation.

—Robert Miyashiro and John Gray

posted 03/29/2011